

Max the Monkey's Sentence Structure Challenge

Learning objective: To identify and use fronted adverbials, conjunctions, and expanded noun phrases to improve sentence structure.

Help Max the Monkey organize his jungle notes! Read each question carefully and choose or write the correct answer. Remember to use your best grammar and punctuation.

Answer Key: 1. A (Fronted adverbial), 2. False, 3. Conjunction, 4. B (The curious, golden monkey), 5. True, 6. Because, 7. C (After the rain stopped), 8. True, 9. Expanded noun phrase, 10. B (Comma).

Word bank: Fronted adverbial · Conjunction · Expanded noun phrase · Subordinate clause · Main clause

1. 1. Which term describes a word or phrase at the start of a sentence that describes how, when, or where something happens? A) Fronted adverbial* B) Verb C) Proper noun D) Full stop (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: A main clause can always stand alone as a complete sentence. (1 mark)

3. 3. What do we call a word like 'although', 'because', or 'if' that links two clauses together? (1 mark)

4. 4. Which of these is an expanded noun phrase? A) He climbed. B) The curious, golden monkey* C) Quickly swinging. D) In the trees. (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: You should always place a comma after a fronted adverbial. (1 mark)

6. 6. Max was happy _____ he found a bunch of ripe bananas. (Fill in the missing conjunction) (1 mark)

7. 7. Identify the fronted adverbial in this sentence: 'After the rain stopped, the jungle felt fresh.' A) The jungle B) Felt fresh C) After the rain stopped* D) The (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: 'While the birds sang' is a subordinate clause. (1 mark)

9. 9. If I write 'The tall, ancient tree', what grammatical feature am I using? (1 mark)

10. 10. Which punctuation mark is most important after a fronted adverbial? A) Full stop B) Comma* C) Question mark D) Colon (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Max the Monkey sitting in a 'tall, ancient tree' with 'vibrant, green leaves'. Label one part of your drawing using an expanded noun phrase.



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenge: 1. Explain why using a variety of sentence structures makes a story more engaging for the reader. 2. Compare and contrast a simple sentence with a complex sentence containing a subordinate clause. 3. Justify why we use commas after fronted adverbials. 4. What might happen to the meaning of a sentence if you moved the fronted adverbial to the end of the sentence? 5. Rewrite the following simple sentence into a complex sentence with an expanded noun phrase and a fronted adverbial: 'The monkey ate the fruit.' 6. Create a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) describing a jungle scene, ensuring you include at least one fronted adverbial and one expanded noun phrase.